

III. REMARKS

Independent claims 1, 9, 15, 21, 23 and 25 have been amended to recite the illumination feature of claims 5, 20 and 29.

The independent claims are not unpatentable over Harris in view of Barkat and further view of Parker.

Claim 1 recites "...circuitry within the housing configured to detect a type of keypad attached to said housing..." and "...the circuitry detects a first electrical resistance...". Further, claim 1 has been amended to recite "...an illumination source...illuminates the ...keypad...". These limitations result in a handset with a minimum number of connector pins which is easy to read. The remaining independent claims have similar limitations.

As previously pointed out, even if Harris is somehow combined with Barkat, the result is using electrical resistance to detect what type of cable accessory, hands-free accessory or desk-top charger accessory is connected. There still is no detection of what type of keypad is attached to the housing, nor an illumination source as recited in claim 1. Hence, even if the references are combined, the result is not the claimed invention. Thus it is respectfully claimed that contrary to the Examiner's statement, applicant is not individually attacking the references, but is attacking the combination of references.

Applicants again state that the problem solved by Barkat (powering an accessory) is so different from the problem solved by the invention of claim 1 (minimizing the number of connector pins and an easy to read handset), that it is improper to combine Barkat with Harris in the first place to solve the problem presently solved, see In re Bigio, 72 USPQ2d 1209, 1212.

Parker does not illuminate a keypad as recited in the independent claims but has a display indicator 108. While it is true that, as the Examiner states, Parker provides a mechanical means for providing an indication of which keypad is being used. It is respectfully submitted that such an indicator does not illuminate a keypad as stated by

the Examiner and recited in the independent claims. They are totally different in both structure and function. Thus combining Parker with Harris and Barkat does not result in the invention of the independent claims. Also, Parker is for the problem of reassigning the meaning of keys (see col. 2, ll. 7-12), and thus it cannot be combined with Harris and Barkat to solve the problems solved by the presently claimed invention. For all of the above reasons, the rejection of the independent claims should be withdrawn.

Claim 14 is not unpatentable over Harris in view of Barkat and further in view of White.

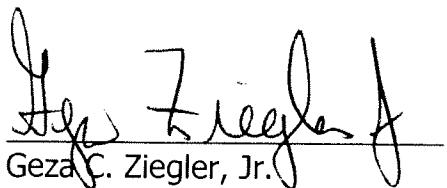
White is for the problem of providing a plurality of functions in a single housing without upgrade modules (see col. 2, ll. 51-62). Thus it cannot be combined with the previous references to solve the problems presently solved. More importantly, White fails to disclose measuring keypad resistance or illuminating a keypad. Thus combining it with Harris and Barkat does not result in the invention of claim 14.

Hence the rejection of claim 14 should be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for a one month extension of time fee (\$120) as well as any other fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



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7 Nov 2006
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Date: 7 November 2006

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Person Making Deposit